

Docket No.: 052363-0030

**PATENT**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|   |   |                             |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| In re Application of                                | : | Customer Number: 20277      |
|   | : |                             |
| Katsumi OKAMURA, et al.                             | : | Confirmation Number: 6234   |
|   | : |                             |
| Application No.: 10/562,485                         | : | Group Art Unit: 1794        |
|   | : |                             |
| Filed: December 27, 2005                            | : | Examiner: TURNER, ARCHENE A |
|   | : |                             |
| For: SURFACE-COATED HIGH HARDNESS MATERIAL FOR TOOL | : |                             |

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 29, 2008, wherein a three-month shortened statutory period for response is set to expire on December 29, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.